C.P.R. VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr. T. G. Shaughnessy and Party Spend a Day in Victoria on Their Annual Tour.

Railway Construction in the Kootenays in Which the Big Company Is Interested.

Mr. T. G. Shaughnessy, vice-president of the Canadian Pacific Railway company, accompanied by Mr. W. Whyte, superintendent of the company's Western division; Mr. George McL. Brown, executive agent for British Columbia, and Mr. John Crocker, of Chicago, arrived from Vancouver on Sunday evening, returning this morning. The party has been over all of the company's lines in the West, Mr. Shaughnessy being on his annual tour of inspection, and with the activity at present prevailing in railway circles in British Columbia, it has been a very busy tour. From early yesterday morning until late in the evening, the vice-president of Canada's greatest railway company was receiving deputations at the Driard, some of a private nature and others in which the general public were interested. A number of Victoria's leading merchants interviewed him during the afternoon respecting the local rates in British Columbia, asking that Victoria be given the same rates as Vancouver to Ashcroft and other interior points. In an interview with a representative of the Colonist afterwards. Mr. Shaughnessy said this was "one of the matters that would have to be attended to."

It was his statements respecting railway construction, however, that will be of the greatest interest at the present time. First came confirmation of the report that the contract had been let for the company's line from Robson to Boundary Creek. The contractors are Messrs. Mann, Foley Bros and Larsen, men who have had large experience in railway building and will be able to carry the work to completion without any unnecessary delay. "It is hoped that the road will be in operation this year," said Mr. Shaughnessy, "but it may be a little later, as there is a lot of bridge work to be done.

"As to the Crow's Nest Pass, no time is being lost on that work, and it is expected that the rails will be laid to the lake before the fall."

"There is some other work in contemplation in Kootenay," said Mr. Shaughnessy, "only, however, in the way of short branch lines, to give the mines better transportation facilities, and improvement in the lines already in operation. These works include a ten mile branch line to Whitewater basin and the changing of the Rossland-Trail line to a standard gauge road."

Although the C. P. R. has nothing to do with the building of the road from Penticton to Boundary Creek, Mr. Shaughnessy had no doubt that it would be operated by the company when built.

The Yukon railway scheme they alike had no interest in, the country being too remote for them, but they were anxious to see it built, as they recognized that that was the only way for Canadians to reach their far northern territory.

Mr. Shaughnessy just took a flying trip through the Kootenay country but even then he was able to notice a great revival in the trade. The smelting policy the company had adopted, viz., not considering the question of profit but giving cheap smelting and transportation rates, has given the mining industry quite an impetus, the mine owners being now enabled to work their properties.

Mr. Shaughnessy and party left by the Islander this morning for Vancouver.

THE SKAGIT CHIEF.

Particulars of the Accident With Which She Met in the Big Canyon.

Captain W. E. Holmes, first officer of the steamer Victoria, in writing of that steamer's trip up the Stikine, states that upon arrival at the Big Canyon they found the steamers Strathcona, Hamlin and Duchesney tied up at the bank, a little below, waiting for the water to drop before attempting to go through, some had laid there four or five days. The Victorian entered the canyon and had not proceeded far when a steamer was sighted not far distant, which afterward proved to be the Skagit Chief. On seeing the Victorian she signalled for her to go back. Captain Lewis stopped the boat and drifted back and tied up alongside the Duchesney; some two hours afterwards the Skagit Chief dropped out and made fast to the Victorian, when they reported a serious accident. She had tried to go through the canyon and they lost control of her and she struck her guard on the rocks and wrenched the flange off her blowoff pipe, which filled the boat with steam and scalded seven head of horses, which had to be shot. Two of the deck hands were also scalded, but not seriously. They managed to get a line fast and held her there until temporary repairs were made. The passengers and crew had a most narrow escape. The passengers and freight were transferred to the Victorian, notwithstanding she was heavily loaded, and she started through the canyon at 3 a. m. next morning and passed through in 27 minutes, arriving at Glenora at 7 p. m. the same night, making a very fast trip with the largest load that was ever carried up the Stikine river.

Captain Lewis and the officers of the Victorian were presented with an address by the passengers for the attentive service and their kindness to the passengers of the Skagit Chief.

SEA OTTER RETURNS.

They Revisit the West Coast of This Island—Indian Excitement In Consequence.

One thousand dollars a day is pretty good wages even for a West Coast Siwash. And yet one fortunate member of the Nootka tribe earned even more than this one day last week. His good luck has filled the tribe and neighboring tribes with the spirit of emulation and as a result the white sealing schooners depending for their hunters upon the West Coast tribes are likely to have considerable trouble.

The lucky Indian in question was making a solitary trip along the coast, his destination being Kyuquot, when, in passing Bajo reef he awoke to a realization of the fact that the sea otter had returned to their old stamping grounds of a century ago, where Captain Cook found them when he first visited Vancouver Island, but where they have not been seen in any number during fifty years past. Four fine specimens were secured by this lonely Indian in a single day and on his report being received, a party of four Nootkas went out and as a result of half a week's hunting, returned to Nootka last Thursday with twenty otters in all, the skins being of medium size and the very best quality.

The schooner Pioneer which has been lying in Kyuquot harbor for some time past, had been promised a crew of Nootkas for her Behring sea expedition, but so much more profitable do they find the sea otter hunting that they have now refused to sign articles, and the captain of the sealer is in a quandary. Other vessels engaged in the industry will probably fare similarly, and the effect of the return of the sea otter will unquestionably be a decided diminution of the sealing catch and the probable return of a number of the already outfitted schooners to Victoria. Sea otter being worth from $200 to $500 a skin, the money to be made through the kindness of the much-prized animals returning to Bajo reef can better be imagined than estimated.

It will be remembered that sea otter were seen in limited numbers off Cape Cook and Nootka Sound last August, when old tribal animosities over the right to hunt them came within an ace of precipitating a conflict between the Nootkas and Haidahs. Whether there is trouble yet in store remains to be seen, but in the meantime the Indians are coining comfortable fortunes.

THE ALTON GIVEN UP.

Little Craft From Cook's Inlet Swells the Roll of Northern Disasters.

The latest victim of the northern seas, unless a direct interposition of Providence has saved her from destruction, is the well known 84-ton schooner Alton of Tacoma, sailing from Cook's inlet for her home port on May 26th last.

This unwelcome news is brought by Capt. Pierson of the San Francisco schooner Rattler, who is so firmly convinced that the Alton no longer floats that he has logged her as gone down with all on board. The Rattler left Tyonki, Cook's inlet, May 23, and three days later saw the Alton passing out from Homer under light wind, Capt. Wester of the Tacoma craft complaining of having no cook stove and being shorthanded in the bargain.

The next day it blew a gale—not a moderate gale by any means, but a veritable hurricane from the northeast that sent the well manned and found Rattler back to Saldovia, having lost her balloon-jib, split her flying-jib and carried away her foregaff topsail in the blow. A day or two was spent at Saldovia repairing, and there it was learned that the Alton's master had had with him for crew but one experienced seaman and two green hands, and had been urged to remain in port until a better working company could be got together. He had to get home, he said, however, and so he started out, ill prepared to fight the tempest that next day came upon him.

There is, in Capt. Pierson's opinion, not one chance in a hundred that Wester, his schooner and those on board, five in number, survived the gale of the 27th.

The Rattler, leaving Saldovia on the 29th ult., and passing Cook's inlet on the 30th, had as passengers fourteen men, all of whom save one had merely reached the country to become discouraged with the most casual inspection, and turned their faces homeward—"cold-feet pilgrims" is the accepted definition of their class. One of these had been induced to try a pan of dirt almost at the spot on the beach where he was landed, and in that pan found a nugget as big as a 5-cent piece. It was not sufficient to hold him, however, he wanted something better, he said, to induce him to stay in such a country.

On the beach at the point in question, probably two score of men were working with old fashioned rockers when the Rattler sailed, taking from $4 to $20 a day out of the black sand, and apparently satisfied with this measure of success.

The most promising camp in the locality, is, however, the Sunrise, discovered about four years ago by a party of twenty prospectors, and improvising every day. Here the claims that have been consistently opened up are now giving a net return of from $60 to $100 a day, thirty in all being worked with common sluice boxes. Seven hundred men are employed at the camp, and its dividends are expected to be many times multiplied just as soon as modern machinery can be introduced.

The principal auriferous creeks at present prospected are the California, the Crow, Six Mile (with its tributaries, Canon, Mills, Lynx and Cub), Indian creek, Resurrection and Bear, all contributing their waters to Turnagain Arm. Machinery is required to make the great majority of the claims profit-earners, and hence the residents of the country do not hesitate to advise intending settlers to keep away—telling them that it is not "a poor man's country."

On the other hand, it has wood, water and game in abundance, three factors of the greatest importance to the miner without capital at his back, and seemingly contradicting the description given.

The Rattler fought light and antagonistic winds all the way down and yet made so favorable a run that she has been off the entrance to the straits during two or three days past. Knowing nothing of the progress of the war and having a wholesome dread of Spanish privateers, she hugged the Vancouver island shore close on her homeward voyage, looking with suspicious eye on every steamer and determined to be in neutral waters as long as possible to make assurance doubly sure.

Philanthropist—Poor fellow! You say your wife never comes to see you? That makes my blood boil.

Prisoner—And it would make your blood freeze if she did, lady. I'm in here for wife murder, yer know.—Judge.

Annual Sales over 6,000,000 Boxes

BEECHAM'S PILLS

FOR BILIOUS AND NERVOUS DISORDERS

such as Wind and Pain in the Stomach, Giddiness, Fulness after meals, Headache, Dizziness, Drowsiness, Flushings of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Costiveness, Blotches on the Skin, Cold Chills, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams and all Nervous and Trembling Sensations.

THE FIRST DOSE WILL GIVE RELIEF IN TWENTY MINUTES. Every sufferer will acknowledge them to be

A WONDERFUL MEDICINE.

BEECHAM'S PILLS, taken as directed, will quickly restore Females to complete health. They promptly remove obstructions or irregularities of the system and cure Sick Headache. For a

Weak Stomach
Impaired Digestion
Disordered Liver

IN MEN, WOMEN OR CHILDREN

Beecham's Pills are

Without a Rival

And have the LARGEST SALE of any Patent Medicine in the World. at all Drug Stores.

NICHOL TRIAL PUT OFF

The Libel Case Postponed Till Next Assize by Action of the Defence.

Commission Granted on Mr. Martin's Application to Examine Witnesses in England.

The Nichol libel case, which it was expected would have continued yesterday, has been postponed for several months on the motion of the defence. Jury and witnesses and spectators were on hand yesterday morning when the court opened, expecting that though there might be a little more skirmishing between counsel, the jury would be empanelled and the trial proceeding before the day was over. This, however, was a mistake, for a motion Mr. Martin made for a commission to take evidence in England was granted and consequently the trial cannot go on in the meantime.

When Mr. Justice McColl took his seat on the bench Mr. Archer Martin for the defence put in a second plea of justification on behalf of Mr. Nichol for the alleged libel.

Mr. Cassidy saw nothing in the new plea that altered the situation from the plea just put in.

Mr. Justice McColl remarked that the present plea of justification was as to the whole libel.

A demurrer was taken by the counsel for the defence, Mr. Charles Wilson, Q.C., and Mr. R. Cassidy, the grounds taken being first a general denial of the allegations in the plea and secondly that the publication of the alleged libel was not in the public interest.

The court over-ruled the demurrer.

Mr. Martin next moved that a commission be appointed to examine William Henry Champness, John Arthur Turner and C. A. Goffin, at present resident in London, England. This application, he stated, was bona fide and not for the purpose of delaying the trial.

Mr. Wilson said that the prosecution were anxious to have the case go to trial and settled as soon as possible, and it seemed to him that the application should have been made sooner.

The court thought that the application could not have been made before the plea of justification.

Mr. Cassidy—If I might say a word in this matter. It seems to me to be proper matter for argument. This much is clear, the application is within your lordship's discretion. If it is quite clear, from everything that has taken place, that this is a bona fide application for a commission, and not clearly a means of evading a trial at the present moment then, your lordship might accede to it. But this application, I submit, is not a bona fide one, but made by the defendant for the mere purpose of evading trial at the present moment.

Mr. Martin—I must take exception to this remark.

Mr. Cassidy—My reason for saying this is, while I have little fault to find with your lordship's ruling that the words: "and so the said Walter Cameron Nichol says that the said alleged libel is true in substance and in fact" may be taken as a general justification of everything in the libel, yet I say that when your lordship comes to look at the matters which are set out in that plea from which he draws that deduction—the facts that this defendant proposes to submit to this court as being justification—your lordships sees at once that those facts are not in any way a justification of the libel in the terms in which it is put, namely, charging betrayal of the public secrets and officially assisting the company and being bribed, and so on, and your lordship has already held that such facts, when set up in the former plea were no justification.

The Court—I expressed no definite opinion, but merely held the first plea bad.

Mr. Cassidy—It seems to me whether it was finally indicated by your lordship or not, the facts set up in the plea are immaterial to this issue we have to try. The crux of this matter is a charge against Messrs. Turner and Pooley that they prostituted their public offices, that they gave away the secrets of the government and were prepared to give them away to the company with which they were associated, and so on. Now nothing is indicated to your lordship in this affidavit that this defendant can prove any more than the facts he has stated in his plea, apart from the general justification. I beg to submit that, with these facts before us this application for a commission and for postponement of the trial is made for the purpose of introducing evidence which is substantially irrelevant to the issue and which if it were proved would make no difference. And this application I say is not an honest application, but for the purpose of evading justice. We have made every effort to bring the persons responsible for this libel before the bar of justice—there are other persons than the defendant who should be brought before that bar also, but for reasons which I have no business to state here now, we have been unable to do so. While I say it is clear that as a matter of practice it is open to the defendant to make an application at any reasonable stage of the proceedings, for a commission to examine witnesses upon a mere statement of the names of those witnesses and that their evidence is necessary and material, yet when the defendant comes before your lordship with a double-barrelled application and asks at this stage for a postponement of the trial of this matter, your lordship will require something more than is here stated. When the facts which they expect to prove are apparent from their own statement in their plea that must be taken as the measure of them. They drew up a plea before which was held insufficient, and they got leave and went away to draw a better one so that this plea must be taken to represent the best that they can prove or even suggest and if what they expect to prove by examining this young man Turner, the son of Hon. Mr. Turner, is what they say in their plea, that the son has been made secretary of a company of which Mr. Turner is a director, why, we believe it. What he expects to get out of these witnesses we will admit freely. It is not to be——

Mr. Martin—I accept that admission of my learned friend if he says he will admit what I want to prove, I will accept the admission.

The Court—I will adjourn if you think you can agree upon any admissions.

Mr. Martin—There are some documents here I would like to have admitted. My lord, I don't like to be challenged in that way.

The Court—I am not going to force it.

Mr. Cassidy—When I make a statement of that kind, of course it may be said, in one way, to be rash, because my learned friend might sit down and draw up the greatest set of fairy tales and ask me to admit them——

The Court—Within certain limits. The application is to myself, so your argument may go on. Mr. Cassidy.

Mr. Cassidy—I am entitled to draw your lordship's attention to the real purpose of this application. We are about entering upon a political campaign, and Messrs. Turner and Pooley are coming out at the polls.

The Court—This is a dry question of law, Mr. Cassidy, and has nothing to do with politics.

Mr. Cassidy—I say that the defendant is afraid to have this case tried before the elections.

The Court—Mr. Cassidy, when I am speaking you will be good enough to stop and hear what I have to say, and attend to it. I hope you will not allude to any question of politics here. There are other ways of bringing these things before the public. The press is open to you.

Mr. Charles Wilson, Q.C., here produced an authority from the Indian Criminal Code applicable to the present application.

The Court—In the absence of rules of practice made under the code I must deal with the matter according to my best discretion. I feel that the application has been made at the earliest moment. Having regard to the peculiar nature of proceedings such as these and the position which the defendant is in after he has justified, for he takes a great responsibility upon himself in filing a plea of justification that the commission is requested and it being a matter of discretion, and of course, the judge can only exercise it one way—according to law.

Mr. Cassidy—There is one word I wish to say. Messrs. Turner and Pooley are both here in the court. I will put them into the box for my learned friend to ask as many questions as he likes about the position of this son of Mr. Turner's. He can get at the fountain head of the whole matter. The son is not here, so I give him the father, I proposed to them that they remain in town so as to make this offer.

The Court—You have no right to make such an offer.

Mr. Cassidy—They can tell him more, perhaps, than the son or the other witnesses they propose to examine and prove for them everything there is to prove which will be useful to them, which we say is nothing.

The Court—I can't take notice of that, nor need you, Mr. Martin, unless you wish.

The court then granted the commission and to prevent any difficulty that might arise by allowing the present assize to die, he adjourned the court until the first day of the next assize.

LARGEST IN MONTHS.

A Very Largely Attended Meeting of the Women's Council Discuss Interesting Topics.

Lady Aberdeen's visit to the Coast, as also that of Miss McLeod, of the Victoria Order of Home Nurses are matters at present absorbing the interest of the Women's Council. Both are expected to arrive here in July and in anticipation of this event the society are making arrangements for the reception, as also for the holding of a public meeting to be held during their stay here. A committee to provide towards this end was appointed yesterday at one of the largest meetings of the society held this season. Several other business matters were before the meeting, one being a report of the cooking school, which was announced as making satisfactory progress. Another was a letter from Mrs. Scaife, the Victoria delegate to the Ottawa convention, and still another was the affiliation with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The former was left over until next meeting when it will receive due consideration. The next monthly meeting will be held in July.

STOCK COMPANY'S OPENING.

Entertainment at Popular Prices Commencing To-Night at A.O.U.W. Hall.

To-night at A. O. U. W. hall the stock seasons opens with Georgie Woodthorpe and her company of fourteen players direct from New York consisting of Wm. Tooker, the sweet singing baritone, late of Hoyt's Fanny Davenport's companies; Frank F. Smiles, late of Richard Mansfield and Edwin Harrigan companies; the favorite comedian, Oliver Paul, late of Grau Opera Co.; Wallace Hopper, the eminent basso and character actor, late of Dan" Frohman's forces, with the assistance of Jules Weiner, the handsome and clever juvenile singing comedian, whom the theatre-going public of Victoria knows well, and saying nothing of the witty, dancing comedians, Messrs. Cooper and Williams, Georgie Woodthorpe, as Trilby, Canada's favorite actress of Lord Fauntleroy repute; Miss Hattie Foley, late of Boothe and Barrett company; Miss Helen Henry, the charming ingenue, late of Hoyt's and Whitney's forces, and not omitting the clever fascinating soubrettes Misses Williams and Weaver, and last but not least the two cherubs "La Petite" Allie and Edie Cooper, whose bright and happy faces will illuminate the surroundings of the galaxy of metropolitan favorite actors and actresses who for the first time now appear at "popular prices," the excuse for this relating closely to the summer months and warm fever over in the States which is a serious disaster to show business. To Victoria goers they say that they have come to stay for the summer season, with a change of programme nightly. They announce for this (Tuesday) evening Augustus Thomas' society comedy "The Burglar," in four acts, with new faces, costumes, and accessories, a one-dollar performance for 25 and 50 cents.

LET THERE BE LIGHT

Thrown on the Subject of Home Dyeing.

There are dyes—the world-famed Diamond Dyes—that crown our labors and home Dyeing work with perfect success, and there are imitations and worthless dyes that bring ruin and disaster wherever they are used.

There are dyes—the chemically pure and scientifically prepared Diamond Dyes—that have brought blessings to millions of homes for long years, and there are the vile preparations and mixtures of imitators who, as far as style of package is concerned, get as near the "Diamond" as they dare go. But what shall be said of the contents—the ingredients—that the women of Canada are asked to dye with? Little more can be added to what has so often appeared in the press of the country. These imitation dyes are simply deceptions; they are adulterated and dangerous preparations, hurtful to the hands of the user, and destroyers of valuable garments and materials.

The manufacture of Diamond Dyes is reduced to a science, and to-day they are the only dyes that dare guarantee their work—that dare proclaim certain victory for every user who will follow the plain directions. Diamond Dyes have a wide-spread popularity; other brands of dyes are hardly known outside of the greedy, long-profit dealers who sell them to the unsuspecting public. Avoid all imitation package dyes as you would avoid spurious coins.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

Nice Words Said About Alderman McCandless When His Resignation Is Read.

The By-Law Forbids Giving More Than One Month's Delay for Sewer Connecting.

The formal resignation by Ald. McCandless as representative of North ward was received at last night's city council meeting with regret and some nice things were said about him by the colleagues he was leaving.

Mayor Redfern said that Ald. McCandless's withdrawal was a loss to the city at large as he was one of the ablest men who ever sat around the board.

Ald. McGregor supposed there was nothing to do but move the resignation be accepted. He did so with regret as Ald McCandless was one of the best who ever sat around the board and he only hoped the place would be filled by as good a man.

Ald. Williams seconded the motion, which was carried.

On motion of Ald. Humphrey it was decided that the nomination for alderman to fill the vacancy in North ward be held at the city hall on Tuesday, June 21, and if an election was necessary the poll be taken at the city market building on Monday, June 24.

A. W. Jones called attention to the bad state of Wharf street opposite the Finlayson estate. This was referred to the city engineer and street committee to act.

Frank Armstrong's request for sewer extension on Michigan street was referred to the sewerage committee and so was D. W. Anderson's letter for an extension of sewer on King's road and second street.

Next came a letter from J. G. Elliott, secretary of the board of fire underwriters, urging that City Electrician Hutchinson be appointed inspector of wires and installation for electric light work in the city. The board had hitherto had an inspector, but believed that the duty was a city one. The electric light committee will report on the matter.

The city engineer had referred to him a letter from Weiler Bros. calling attention to bad sidewalks on Broughton street, and the cemetery committee will report on a request to allow the completion of an iron railing on a lot in the cemetery, the present by-law only allowing the erection of galvanized iron railings.

Mrs. McCracken, who wrote a letter addressing the council as "Sirs and Brethren," wanted to know why she was not allowed to sell in the park, though she paid her license to sell in the city. She was a poor, honest and struggling woman and when men were allowed to sell in the park she did not see why she should be debarred.

Ald. Hall as chairman of the park committee was unaware that the lady had been interfered with. Certainly he did not object to her selling in the park.

Finally Mayor Redfern was authorized to sign a permit to grant Mrs. McCracken the privilege asked.

After the council had passed a resolution deciding that the condemned buildings on Fort and Pandora streets be torn down ,a letter was read from Messrs. McPhillips, Wootten & Barnard, on behalf of Mrs. Drosdowitz, to owner of one of these houses. She was prepared to put in good sanitary condition and to have it connected with the sewers. Accordingly it was decided to give her a month in which to carry out her promise.

The sanitary inspector in regard to the extension of six months given Mrs. Williams to connect her property at the corner of Douglas and Fisgard streets with the sewer, said that the property had been the cause of numerous complaints in the past two years and though the buildings had been very well rented and the sewer completed for three years no effort had been made yet to connect them. He had always been careful not to be too exacting or officious in enforcing the sewerage by-law. In view of the action taken by the council he wanted to know whether he would take no further steps in abating such nuisances.

Mayor Redfern returned for reconsideration the resolution passed last Monday granting Mrs. Williams the six months' extension. In doing so he said:

"My reason for returning the resolution to you for recommendation are as follows: The Sewer Connection Regulation by-law, section 4 states distinctly 'that the city engineer may grant for cause such extension of time to make the connection as he may deem advisable, not, however, exceeding thirty days.' The by-law therefore expressly places the power to grant an extension of time in the discretion of the city engineer and not in the municipal council, and also limits such extension of time to thirty days. I therefore recommend that the resolution be rescinded and the following substituted therefor: 'That Mrs. Williams be informed that the council has no power to grant an extension of time, except as provided for in the Sewer Connection Regulation by-law.'"

Ald. Kinsman was in favor of giving people time to make the connections when the property owners could ill afford to pay out the money at once.

The Mayor pointed out that in any event the resolution could not override the by-law.

Ald. Humber seemed to think that this was all a scheme of the reporters, for everything seemed all right till some scribbler in the papers found out about the by-law.

Ald. Mc. Gregor would not interfere with the sanitary officer in doing his duty. He moved, seconded by Ald. Wilson, that the Mayor's recommendation be carried out.

Ald. Phillips understood that the owners of the property could ill afford the expense of connecting and Ald. Kinsman remarked that it would cost about as much as the property was worth to do the work.

The Mayor's recommendation was carried. Ald. Wilson, McGregor, Humphrey, Williams and the Mayor favoring it; Ald. Hall, Humber, Kinsman and Phillips opposing.

As a result several other requests for extension were refused.

The water commissioner reported that Shakespeare street not yet being made over to the city he had not laid water pipes on it. This was received and filed.

Mr. Thos. J. Partridge was given leave of absence for two months on account of ill health.

A petition for increased water service on upper Johnson street was referred to the water committee to report and then tenders for the purchase of the city grass at Beaver lake and Beacon Hill were opened.

The only tenderer for the Beacon Hill grass was A. G. Tate, $45; he got it. There were two tenderers for Beaver lake grass, Robert Mason, $121.25, and Josiah Bull, $135. The last tender was accepted and Mr. Bull's offer to pay $135 a year for the grass if the city would let him seed it was referred to the water commissioner to report together with the solicitor.

The Victoria Machinery Depot got the tender for pulleys, $280, for electric light plant, and Thomas Shaw was successful in his tender for $175 for fire tubes and repairs.

The electric light committee incidentally stated that they had given orders to cut away tree branches where they interfered much with the street lights.

The fire wardens reported that the new alarm boxes be placed in position by the city electrician at the points decided upon by Chief Deasy. They recommended the placing of several new hydrants and that the application be allowed to alter the wooden building, 106 Douglas street, be not granted. The report was adopted.

Recommendations came from the street committe eto renew sidewalks on the following street: Menzies, east side from Drill hall to Superior; Menzies, west side between Kingston and Superior; Johnson, north side between Douglas and Blanchard; Princess avenue, north side from Douglas to Blanchard; Yates, from Blanchard to Quadra, north side, and that a gravel sidewalk be placed on south side Michigan street, between Menzies and Oswego. This was adopted.

In answer to the request of certain Victoria West people to know the proportion of taxes paid by that part of the city and the benefit received, the finance committee reported that the city received from that district in 1895, $5,591; in 1896, $5,871, and in 1897, $5,720, and there had been expended by the city in 1895, $6,563; in 1896, $7,885, and in 1897, $6,489, or $3,700 more in the three years than the district had paid in and this without counting in police, fire or street lighting service.

The building inspector was on motion of Ald. McGregor, instructed to draw up plans for a cart shed and tool house at the Yates street stables, and then

The council went into committee of the whole on the Streets By-Law Amendment.

Ald. McGregor made an attempt to have wood cutting or sawing on the streets restricted to between the hours of 5 a.m. and 10 a.m., but this was voted down and the by-law was put through committee stage, read a third time and passed.

During the evening the Mayor reminded the council that the civic board of revision sits this morning at 10 o'clock.

COOK'S INLET FAKES.

Victims Give Details of a Recent Unprofitable Adventure.

No part of the country is more prolific in fake mining schemes than that generally known as Cook's Inlet. Such is the testimony of Messrs. O. C. Orr, A. Sickler, W. H. Mackie, A. E. Munson and Clint Robinson, who reached Victoria direct from the far North on Sunday night, having been brought to Victoria by the steamer Mischief from off the West Coast of Vancouver Island. To this point they had been passengers on the schooner Rattler, but the cupboard on that craft becoming exhausted, they were heartily glad to avail themselves of the opportunity offered by the coming of the Examiner steamer to pay a visit to Victoria.

Two instances of northern flotation, of which shareholders are the victims, are quoted by Mr. Robinson. The first is that known as the Towle scheme, which has been assisted financially by Mr. Stetson, of San Jose, and which is mentioned as the lesser of two evils by reason of the fact that the original principals have themselves been duped. The ground intended to be operated is on Stetson creek, a tributary of the Cooper, which 140 miles in length and inclusive of two lakes of twenty-five and fifteen miles respectively, emptying into Cook's Inlet at Kanai. A small hydraulic plant was installed on the ground, but as yet nothing more has been done, the prospects being at the present time limited to a little fine gold, and much untried, untested and, to old miners, unpromising ground.

The Stetson scheme, referred to by Mr. Robinson as "a gigantic swindle," has for its scene 2,000 acres on Kaknu river at the mouth of the first or 25-mile lake, where Juneau creek empties into the Kaknu opposite Cooper. There is no dump and no prospect warranting the undertaking of a hydraulicing proposition. Fine gold has been found, but not in as great quantity or of as good quality as on the beach at Cook's Inlet, or at Anchor Point, where failure has been the portion of investors.

To develop this unpromising property an 80-ton plant was landed by the steamer Excelsior on the 26th of April, purchasers of stock in the company having been told that it would be in a position, on the ground, by the first of June, and the mine making a return of $1,000 a day a fortnight thereafter.

Now, as to the prospect of this being accomplished. The promoter has a force of fifteen men inclusive of himself, and the capitalists' expert, with six horses. It is necessary for them first to build ten miles of road through a forest of practically unbroken timber. Thence five miles of intermittent road and bridge building takes them to the head of the lake where four hundred or five hundred feet of wharf must be constructed before further progress is made—and this with no suitable timber at hand to draw upon. The wharf being built, boats must be constructed for the transportation of the machinery to the other end of the lake. There four miles of road building will be necessary to reach the "mine" with the machinery.

According to the residents of the country, the mere work of transporting a plant to the scene of operations cannot be accomplished during the present season and there is little prospect of shareholders reaping any return from their investments during the next two years, if at all. The nuggets which Mr. Stetson exhibited as from the ground owned by the company are declared by Mr. Robinson and his party to have been purchased at Sunrise camp.

SPECIAL ASSIZES.

Stikine Murderer Will Be Tried at Nanaimo and Belle Adams at Victoria This Month.

By the Amur to-day Mr. F. S. Hussey, superintendent of the provincial police, goes to Wrangel and Glenora to arrange for bringing to Nanaimo, two prisoners who are held for trial at Glenora. One of these is Claus, the man who is accused of the double murder on the Stikine river of Hendrickson and his companion. It was found that it would be a most expensive matter to hold an assize at Glenora, as it would have been necessary to take a jury there from some other part of Nanaimo district, Glenora being practically too new to have a jury list as yet. Consequently the special assize which was to have been held there has been cancelled and instead a special assize will be held at Nanaimo on June 28. At the same assize will be tried Harry Hunter, who is now under arrest at Glenora on the very serious charge of attempting to wreck a steamer.

A special assize will be held in Victoria on June 27 for the trial of Belle Adams, who is charged with the murder of Charles Kincaid.